### **Expanding CalFresh to SSI Recipients**

All Stakeholder Implementation Meeting #6

Tuesday, May 14, 2019

Hosted by the California Department of Social Services,

CalFresh and Nutrition Branch



### How to Listen In

This webinar will be held in "listen only" mode.

There are two ways to connect to audio:

- 1. Via phone
- 2. Via computer



### **How to Ask Questions**

#### In-Person

Write your questions on the notecards provided

#### On-line

 Type your questions into the question pane on your control panel anytime during the presentation.

We will address as many questions as possible at the <u>end</u> of the presentation.

We will follow-up on questions that we cannot get to during the live presentation.

**Note:** This webinar will be recorded. A link to the recording and all presentation materials will be posted on the <u>Expanding CalFresh to SSI Recipients Webpage</u>.

## All Stakeholder Meetings

All are invited to join. The group meets bi-monthly, in-person and via webinar.

**Next Meeting: All Stakeholder #7** 

July 23, 2019, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm CDSS Headquarters and Webinar

More info, including meeting materials: <a href="http://www.cdss.ca.gov/CalFreshSSI">http://www.cdss.ca.gov/CalFreshSSI</a>

Email: CalFreshSSI@dss.ca.gov

## Agenda

- Welcome: Partnership in Focus
- Policy Overview
- Implementation Strategies: Recap & Progress
- Report From the Field
- Go Live Activities
- Discussion and Questions

# Welcome: Partnership in Focus

### **Policy Overview**

The state budget for FY 18-19 enacted June 2018 allows older adults and people with disabilities receiving SSI/SSP to also be eligible for CalFresh food benefits for the first time beginning June 2019.



#### SSI/SSP

There is NO change or reduction to SSI/SSP benefit.



#### Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants (CAPI)

CAPI recipients will receive a \$10 per person grant increase.

## **Policy Overview**

Two new state food programs created to mitigate harm to those households negatively impacted by the change:

- Supplemental Nutrition Benefit (SNB) Program will provide supplemental state-funded nutrition benefits to CalFresh households that experience a CalFresh benefit <u>reduction</u> at the time of implementation.
- Transitional Nutrition Benefit (TNB) Program will provide transitional state-funded nutrition benefits to CalFresh households that experience a CalFresh <u>eligibility loss</u> at the time of implementation.

## Stakeholder Engagement

- All Stakeholder Advisory Group meets bi-monthly: next is July 23, 2019
- Four advisory groups (invite only): Outreach, Customer Experience,
   Data Technical, and Automation Technical
- All in partnership with CWDA and C4SSI
- Project Webpage (<u>www.cdss.ca.gov/CalFreshSSI</u>): bi-monthly implementation summaries, advisory group meeting summaries, new materials, including data tables, policy guidance, customer experience resources, and outreach materials

## Four Implementation Strategies

- 1. Engage and empower clients
- 2. Target outreach for awareness and assistance



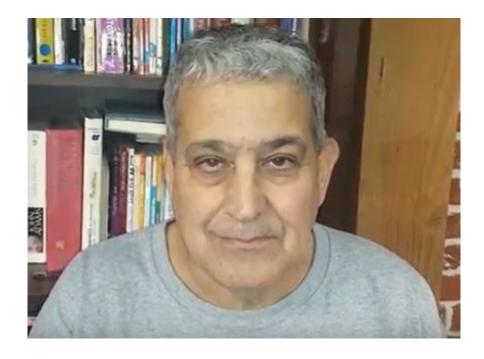
- Streamline customer experience at initial application and beyond
- 4. Develop policy, automation, and training foundation

### 1. Engage and Empower Clients

- Client stakeholders
- Client stories
- Client journey mapping
- Client data dashboard



### **Client Voice**



Ronald Nagby
Hunger Action Los Angeles

## 2. Target Outreach for Awareness and Assistance

- Outreach kits and campaign
- Comprehensive partner network for outreach/in-reach
- Application assisters serving older adults and people with disabilities
- Application assistance tools expanded and translated: online, in-person, and by phone

## Recap: Mailers to SSI/SSP Clients – May





#### BEGINNING JUNE 1, 2019 SSI RECIPIENTS MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR CALFRESH FOOD BENEFITS

- There is NO CHANGE or reduction to SSI/SSP amounts.
- Food benefits are issued monthly on an easy-to-use Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card. Recipients can buy food at any grocery store or farmers market that accepts EBT.
- · CalFresh Food benefits can stretch food budgets and provide more healthy choices.
- The county will contact households already receiving CalFresh Food benefits at the next report.
  - Click **GetCalFresh.org** to apply online
  - Call **1-877-847-3663** (FOOD)
  - Come in/find an office at CalFreshFood.org

For other languages, or reasonable accommodations, find an office at CalFreshFood.org.

Caurresnrood.org. For speech and/or be

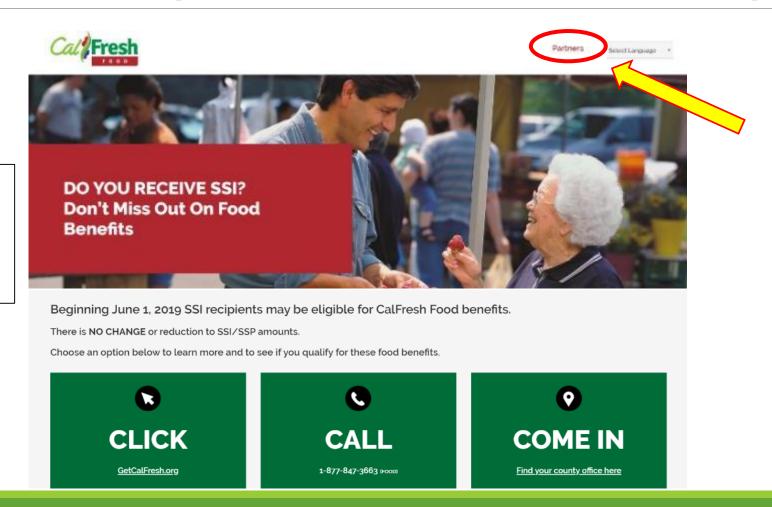
assistance call **711 Relay.** 

Funded by USDA, an equal opportunity provider and employer.



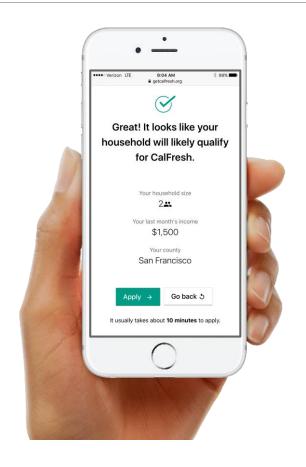
## Recap: Web Page – CalFreshFood.org

Google Translate for all languages, Spanish webpage coming soon



### Click: GetCalFresh.org

- Digital application assister tool
- Mobile friendly
- Works on top of existing systems and routes to county on-line portal (MyBCW, C4Yourself, or YBN)
- Languages include: English and Spanish now, Chinese coming soon

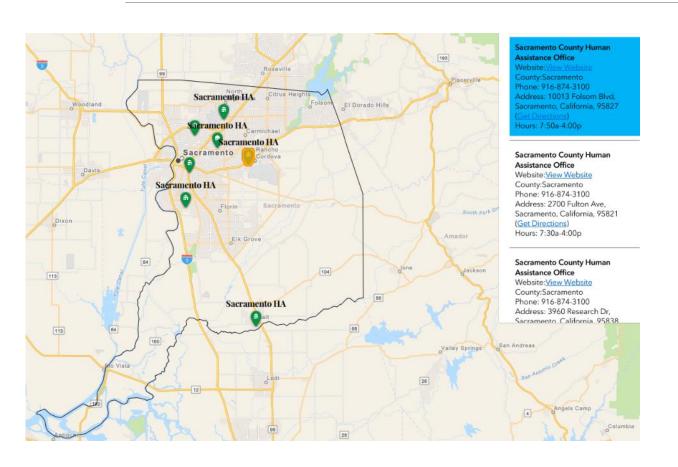


### Call: CalFresh Info Line

- CalFresh Info Line: 1-877-847-3663 (FOOD)
- Routes calls to county telephone number of choice
- Languages include: English, Spanish, Cantonese, Russian, Vietnamese, and Korean
- 711 Relay Services available

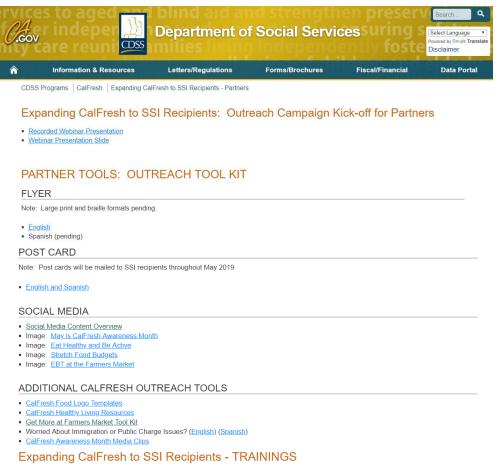


## Come In: Find an Office Tool at CalFreshFood.org



- Routes to find office with county information (address, hours of operation, phone number)
- Client can enter zip code or select "my current location"
- Reminds client to apply in county of residence
- Mobile friendly
- Compatible with Google Translate

## Recap: Web Page – CalFreshFood.org/Partners



For recorded webinar presentations, webinar presentation slides, and/or handouts, visit the Expanding CalFresh to SSI Recipients Training webpage

### Recap: Outreach Tool Kit Overview

**Digital tool kit** featuring client and partner materials:

- Flyer
- Posters (various sizes)
- Brochures
  - Older Adults
  - People with Disabilities
  - Caregivers
- Fact Sheet

- Translations in Spanish, Russian, Cantonese, and Vietnamese languages posted on a rolling basis
- Available in large print, digitally accessible format, and Braille for the blind or visually impaired

**Posters** in English/Spanish mailed to counties and assisters

# Recap: Leveraging *Current*Application Assisters & Tools













## Recap: Engaging New Application Assisters

- Area Agencies on Aging/ Department of Aging (CDA)
- Independent Living Centers/
   Department of Rehabilitation (DOR)
- Regional Centers/ Department of Developmental Services (DDS)
- County Nutrition Action Partnerships (CNAP)/ Department of Public Health (CDPH)
- Social Security Administration (SSA)











## Recap: Access for All Guest Speaker Webinar





#### SERVING PEOPLE OF ALL SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS & GENDER IDENTITIES (SOGI)

Guest Speaker: Area Agency on Aging – San Francisco Tuesday, March 26, 2019 10:30AM – 12:00PM



State Council on Developmental Disabilities
Tuesday, April 2, 2019
10:30AM – 12:00PM



Guest Speakers: National Council on Aging Tuesday, April 9, 2019 10:00AM – 11:00AM

#### SERVING PEOPLE IN MULTIPLE LANGUAGES & WELCOMING IMMIGRANTS

Guest Speaker: Just Communities Tuesday, April 16, 2019 10:00AM – 11:00AM

#### SERVING DIVERSE COMMUNITIES & ADVANCING RACIAL EQUITY

Guest Speaker: Public Health Advocates Tuesday, April 16, 2019 1:00PM – 2:00PM

All webinar sessions will be recorded and posted on the CalFresh SSI Training webpage.

For questions, please email the CalFresh Outreach Unit: CalFreshAccess@dss.ca.gov

 Recorded webinar presentations, slides, and handouts are available on the CalFresh SSI Training webpage:

http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/CalFreshSSI/Training



### In Progress: Media

- Press release May 1 by Agency
- Local press released rolling
- Clips collected:

http://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/

<u>CalFresh-Outreach/CalFresh-Awareness-Month</u>



#### CalFresh Awareness Month News!

- CalFresh program expands to SSI recipients May 13, 2019
- May CalFresh month celebration May 10, 2019
- Thousands of low-income resident in Humboldt County can now apply for CalFresh May 9, 2019
- Supplemental Security Income recipients could be eligible for CalFresh May 8, 2019
- Newly Eligible For CalFresh In Sonoma County: SSI, SSP Recipients May 6, 2019
- SSI/SSP Recipients Now Eligible To Apply For CalFresh May 5, 2019
- SSI recipients to be eligible for food stamps May 3, 2019
- 'CalFresh Awareness Month' marks effort to expand enrollment, reduce hunger in Lake
   County May 2, 2019
- CalFresh Benefits Now Available To SSI Recipients, County Says May 2, 2019
- <u>CalFresh expansion could boost healthy food options for tens of thousands in SF</u> April 30, 2019

### In Progress: Social Media

Twitter: Retweet and tag
 @CaliforniaDSS, @CWDA\_CA,
 and @CA4SSI

#### **How to Retweet**

Hover over the Tweet you'd like to share:

- 1. Click the Retweet button 🕽
- A pop-up will show you the Tweet you're about to Retweet.
- 3. Click the Retweet button.

The Tweet will then be shared with all of your followers as a Retweet.



## In Progress: Radio and Op-Eds – Summer

- :30 English & :30 Spanish
- Live read scripts in English & Spanish for added value
- Additional live read scripts for Cantonese and Mandarin radio networks
- Op-Eds by trusted voices in target markets



## 3. Streamline Customer Experience

- County "Framework of Solutions" for successful implementation
- County technical assistance, peer trainings, and resource kits
- Statewide service enhancements



## Recap: Framework of Solutions

#### **EXPANDING CALFRESH TO SSI RECIPIENTS SUMMER 2019**

#### Framework of Solutions for Successful Implementation

Mission: Reducing hunger and poverty in California for seniors and people with disabilities.

Vision: Excellent customer service and access for all.



- Offer electronic signatures over telephone to accept and complete applications by telephone
- Offer customers flexible interview times by telephone
- Upgrade IVR menu and features:
  - Call back, self service



- Maximize Consortia's on-line and mobile application features:
  - Upload verifications, check application status, create accounts
- Promote GetCalFresh.org
- Offer same day service when applicants apply on-line, with telephone interview



- Welcome with Greeter/Customer Service Liaison to assist clients and actively manage lobby
- Upgrade lobby and line management tools
  - Signage, messaging, monitors, on-line terminals, telephones, kiosks
- Offer same day service when applicants come in to apply, with either an in office or telephone interview

#### STREAMLINE VERIFICATIONS

- Electronic verifications for identity, residence, and SSI income
- Standardized protocols for deductions for medical, dependent care, and shelter

#### PROVIDE ACCESS FOR ALL

- Reasonable accommodations in all doors
- Multi-language access in all doors
- Authorized representative processes in all doors

### COLLABORATE TO HELP CLIENTS APPLY

- County staff from IHSS, Medi-Cal QMB/SLMB/QI-1 cases, multi-program outreach, and other local programs serving people on SSI
- CalFresh Outreach Application assisters, including food banks, area agencies on aging, independent living centers, and more
- All community partners can educate and refer

### Recap: Framework of Solutions Resource Tool Kit 2.0



FRAMEWORK OF SOLUTIONS FOR CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE AND ACCESS: RESOURCE TOOL KIT 2.0

County Welfare Departments (CWDs) Guide

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES CALERESH AND NOTRITION BRANCH EXPANDING CALERESH TO SSIZESPIRED PIENTS POLICY

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## Recap: Roundtable Readiness – Feb 27-28

- Client focused and client centered
- County readiness and contingency planning
- County peer-to-peer learning and presentations
  - Call
  - Click
  - Come In
  - Streamline Verifications
  - Provide Access for All
  - Collaborate to Help Clients Apply
- Lessons learned and hot topics



## Recap: County & State Readiness Plans

- Plans posted on CDSS website in April
- County Readiness Plans 58 CWDs
- State Readiness Plan CDSS
  - Statewide Automated Welfare System (SAWS)
  - Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT)
  - Social Security Administration (SSA)
- Technical assistance on-going
  - May Summary

State of California – Health and Human Services Agency Department of Social Services April 2019



#### Expanding CalFresh to Seniors & People with Disabilities Receiving SSI/SSP: State Readiness Plan

Purpose of the State Readiness Plan

The State Readiness Plan outlines the steps taken by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), CalFresh and Nutrition Branch to prepare for the upcoming expansion of CalFresh to seniors and people with disabilities receiving Supplemental Security Income



#### EXPANDING CALFRESH TO SSI RECIPIENTS: COUNTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MAY 2019

#### County TA Assignments

Butte, Colusa, Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Tehama, Trinity, and San Diego Steve Crandall

Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano

#### DUNTY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE MAY

#### Background

The County Technical Assistance (TA) Team Members serve as liaisons between the CDSS CalFresh and Nutrition Branch and the 58 counties. The TA team supports county success in serving clients with streamlined access and high accuracy through training, tools, TA and special projects. The TA team designed the following tools to assist counties in preparing for Expanding CalFresh to SSI Recipients.

#### Framework of Solutions for Successful Implementation - December

Call, Click, and Come In was the model developed to assist counties with streamlining the customer experience when applying for CalFresh. The Framework of Solutions also provided counties with information on Streamlining Verifications, Providing Access for All, and Collaborating to Help Clients Apply.

#### Framework of Solutions for Customer Experience and Access: Resource Tool Kit – February

The Tool Kit provides counties with 40+ resources and contacts for each county that has already successfully implemented one of the solutions listed in the Framework of Solutions.

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with

## 4. Develop Policy, Automation, and Training Foundation

- Policy guidance, notices, and forms
- SAWS automation
- USDA, SSA, and Tribal partnerships
- Policy webinar training series



### Recap

- Policy guidance issued for implementation and automation of the reversal of SSI cash-out, the SNB Program, and the TNB Program: All County Letter (ACL) 18-90, ACL 18-91, ACL 18-92, ACL 18-107, ACL 18-108, ACL 18-131, and ACL 19-12, ACL 19-15, ACL 19-15E, ACL 18-90E, ACL 19-41, and ACL 19-44; additionally, SNB and TNB notices issued in 17 threshold languages
- Consultation with California Tribal Leadership on reversal of SSI cash-out for both CalFresh and Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR)
- Claiming instructions issued for the reversal of SSI cash-out and implementation of SNB and TNB Program: County Fiscal Letter (CFL) 18/19-40, and CFL 18/19-40E; allocation for the administration of the SNB and TNB Program: CFL 18-19-43
- SDX county-by-county March point-in-time data use disseminated in April

## Recap: Policy Webinar Series – Jan-Mar

#### SCHEDULE

Click on the webinar titles to register.



POLICY OVERVIEW: REVERSING SSI CASH-OUT AND NEW STATE NUTRITION PROGRAMS Tuesday, January 22, 2019 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM



POLICY REFRESHER: CALFRESH ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR ELDERLY AND/OR DISABLED INDIVIDUALS

Tuesday, February 5, 2019 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM



POLICY REFRESHER: CALFRESH ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR RESIDENTS OF INSTITUTIONS

Tuesday, February 19, 2019 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM



POLICY REFRESHER: CALFRESH RULES FOR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM



REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION BEST PRACTICES
Tuesday, March 19, 2019

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

All webinar sessions will be recorded and posted on the CalFresh SSI webpage.

## In Progress: SSA Joint Processing

- Joint processing procedures apply to households consisting only of SSI applicant or recipient members (ACL <u>19-44</u>)
- SSA technicians will use a unique version of the GetCalFresh.org application tool
  as the default method to assist households with completing and submitting a
  CalFresh application
- Households whose CalFresh applications are processed under SSA joint processing procedures will not be required to go into a County Welfare Department (CWD) office, or otherwise be subject to a CWD interview

### In Progress

- Automation development underway with SAWS go-live dates in May
  - CalWIN May 13
  - CalACES May 20
- Large print/digitally accessible applications in progress to be ready for use beginning in May
- CDSS CalFresh Data Dashboard additions of SSI data in progress for July posting of June data



### Report From the Field

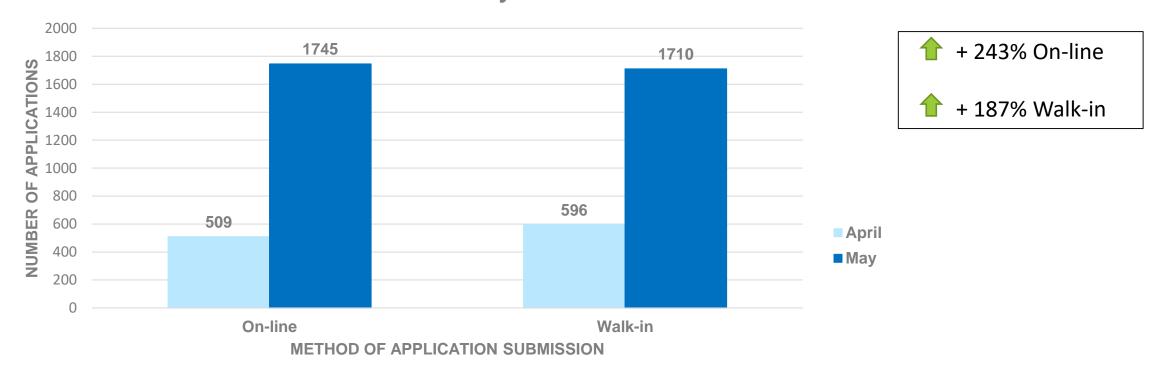
- San Francisco County
- San Francisco-Marin Food Bank

### San Francisco County: Press Clips

- KCBS Radio: <u>CalFresh Expansion Could Help 41,000 Low Income</u> <u>Residents in SF</u>
- KTSF Channel 26: CalFresh糧食券擴大補助範圍 領SSI也可申請 (CalFresh expansion to SSI recipients)
- SF Chronicle: <u>CalFresh expansion could boost healthy food options</u> for tens of thousands in SF
- Bay Area Legal Aid: Good news about CalFresh benefits for SSI recipients!
- SF-Marin Food Bank: <u>Big News in Hunger for Seniors and Adults</u> with <u>Disabilities!</u>

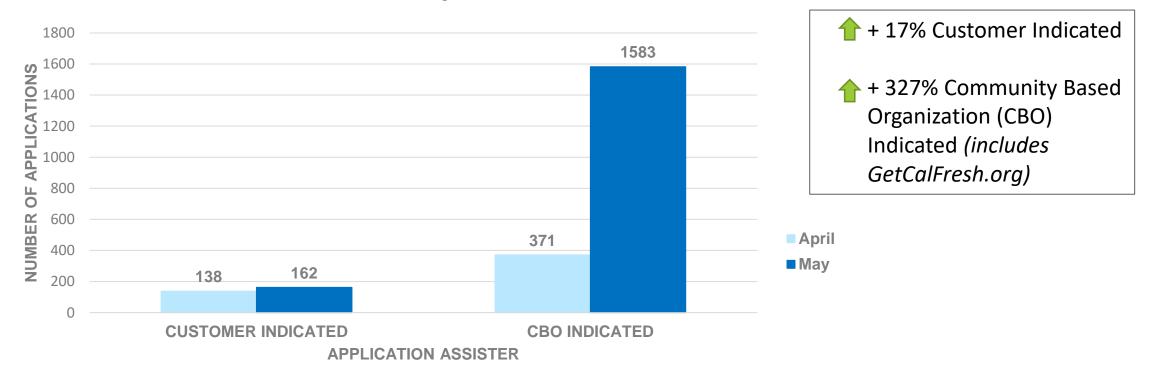
### San Francisco County: April-May Data

CalFresh Applications Submitted On-line vs. Walk-in First 8-Business Days of the Month



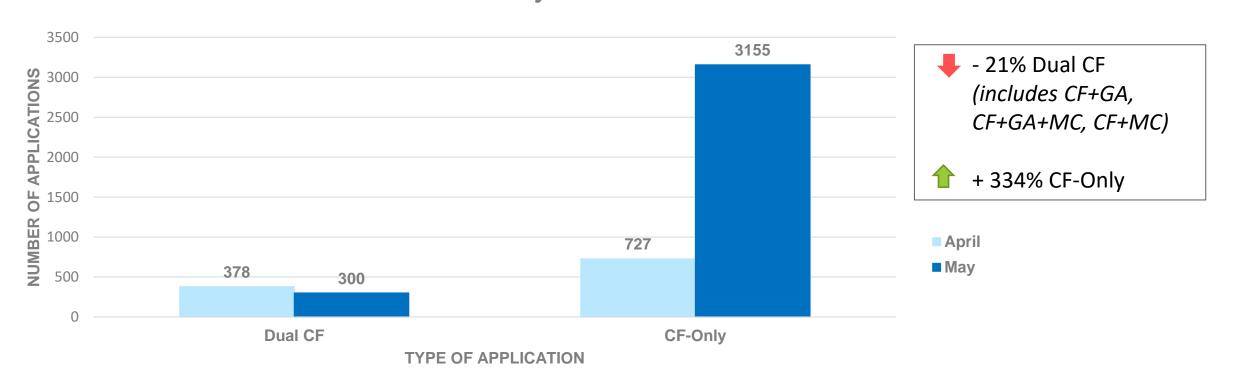
### San Francisco County: April-May Data

CalFresh Application Assisted vs. Self-Submitted First 8-Business Days of the Month



## San Francisco County: April-May Data

Dual CalFresh Applications vs. CalFresh-Only Application Submitted First 8-Business Days of the Month



## CalFresh outreach to newly eligible SSI recipients in San Francisco

Francesca Costa CalFresh Outreach Program Manager San Francisco-Marin Food Bank May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019



### Planning phase January – April

Direct client education

CBO capacity building

County collaboration

Broad community awareness



### Developing collateral









### Addressing frequently asked questions



What is CalFresh?



How does it work?



Why should I apply?



How much will I get?



Will this affect my SSI payments?



I am not receiving SSI; can I get CalFresh?



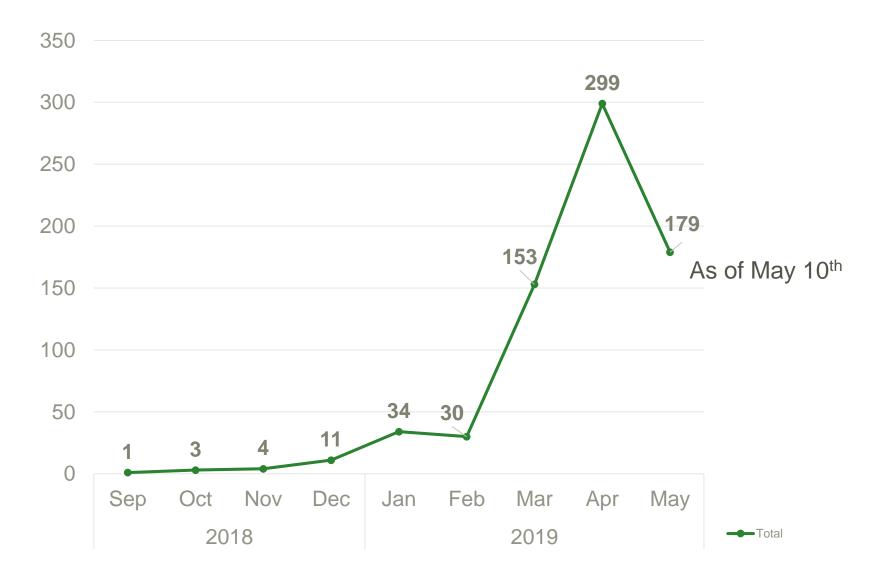
When can I apply?



Call us for assistance today!

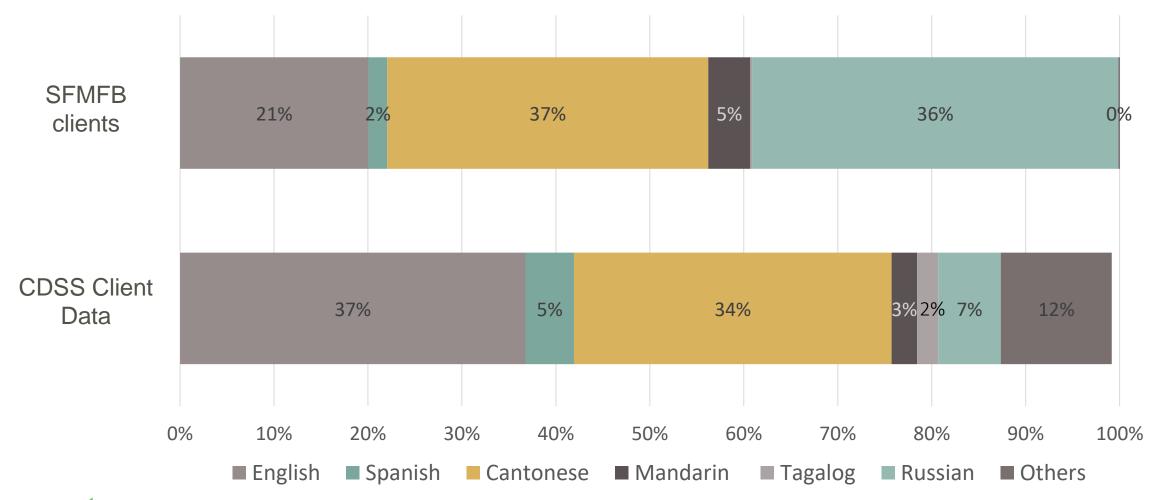


### Prescreens of clients with SSI





### Newly eligible population vs. SFMFB prescreens





### Since May 1<sup>st</sup> ...



Direct service
174 new
applications

submitted

An estimated
448 new
applications
submitted by our CBO
network



### Direct service language breakdown

Cantonese 35%

Russian 29%

English 29%

Mandarin 6%

Spanish 2%

Vietnamese 1%



### All hands on deck

Trained

6 staff

from our

Supplemental Food

to provide application

Program (SFP) team

assistance for newly

eligible individuals

Currently

3 staff

from our SFP team

are working to contact

and assist all the

clients who indicated

interest in applying

Are getting

support from

2 staff

from our Marin

CalFresh Outreach

team in order to meet

higher needs in San

Francisco



### Home-Delivered Groceries team support



Informing and referring clients to our direct service team

### 160 clients and counting

Capacity building staff working to onboard partner agencies already serving HDG clients

#### **NEXT PHASE:**

working with staff and volunteers who hand deliver groceries



### Capacity building



We developed curriculum tailored for staff who work with clients who receive SSI

119

staff signed up for trainings in May and June

As part of CalFresh expansion, we have formalized application assistance partnerships with

9

additional community based organization sites



### Still to come!

Collaborating with SF HSA and DAAS to plan

## 2 community forums

that aim to educate and inspire more collaboration from CBOs to assist likely eligible individuals

### Updates

on our website

~40

application
assistance events at
housing sites in June
and July; several
enrollment events
being planned in
collaboration in HSA

## Monthly meetings

with county leadership to strive for excellence beyond implementation



## Francesca Costa Program Manager, CalFresh Outreach fcosta@sfmfoodbank.org

#### SFMFOODBANK.ORG



@sfmfoodbank

#FoodForAll #EndHungerTogether



### **Go Live Activities**

- Implementation update continue to post monthly
- All Stakeholder meetings continue bi-monthly
- New May and June calls for counties and assisters
- CalFresh Data Dashboard with SSI indicators (July)



### CalFresh Data Dashboard Demo

Patrick Delaney

Research Services Branch

**CDSS** 

## CalFresh Data Dashboard: Access

- To access the dashboard:

   <a href="https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/">https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/</a>
   <a href="Data-Portal/Research-and-">Data-Portal/Research-and-</a>
   <a href="Data-Dashboard">Data/CalFresh-Data-Dashboard</a>
- Click on "CalFresh Dashboard"

Data Portal Research and Data CalFresh Data Dashboard

#### CalFresh Data Dashboard

Welcome to the CalFresh Data Dashboard. This is a full service, one-stop dashboard where you can find all of the most current CalFresh data. CDSS strives to deliver excellent services and resources to our internal and external partners. This dashboard will provide you with information to analyze trends in CalFresh demographics, participation rates, timeliness, benefit accuracy and churn rates by county. Please refer to the *Resources and Tools* section available in the dashboard for additional assistance.

#### Contact Us

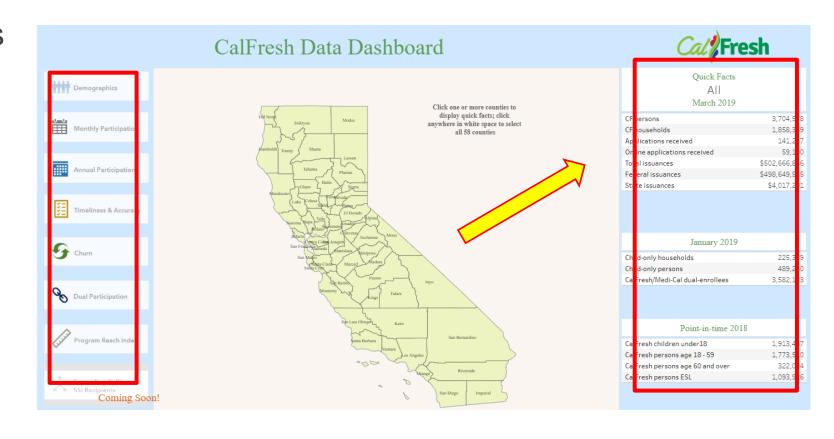
If you have additional questions regarding the CalFresh Data Dashboard, please title your email "CalFresh Data Dashboard Question" to calfreshaccess@dss.ca.gov.



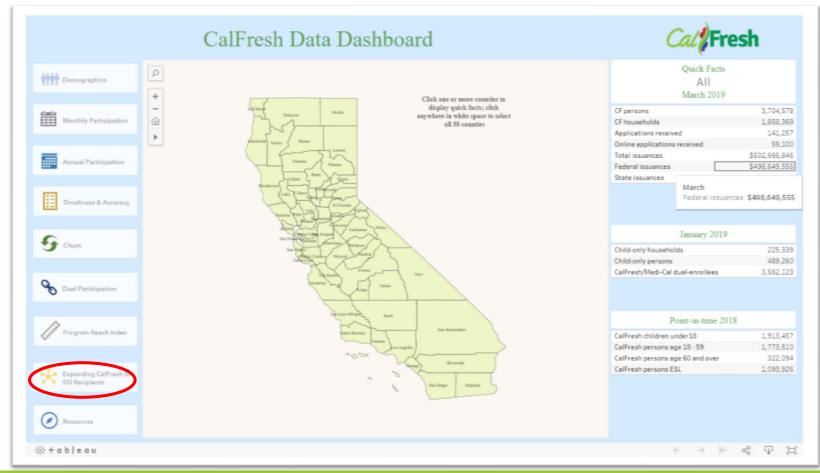


## CalFresh Data Dashboard: Navigation

- Click one or more counties to display "Quick Facts" (right-side panel); click anywhere in white space to select all 58 counties
- 2. For specific data elements, select and click on the left-side panel.



## CalFresh Data Dashboard: Upgraded & Expanded!





### CalFresh Data Dashboard: New Page for Expansion to SSI



# CalFresh Data Dashboard: Key Points of Interest for CalFresh Expansion to SSI

#### **Current CF Dashboard:**

- <u>Total</u> application volume, outcomes, source (e.g., on-line, GetCalFresh.org, Community Based Organizations) trends from month-to-month
- <u>Total</u> timeliness and accuracy trends month-to-month

#### **New CF SSI Dashboard Page:**

- New applications <u>with some SSI</u> outcomes each month
- Continuing applications with some SSI outcomes each month
- Dollars issued for CalFresh, SNB, and TNB each month
- Demographics on new CalFresh enrollees with some SSI each month

#### **Future Analytics:**

 More on application outcomes (e.g., denial reasons), enrollment gaps, access channels, health outcomes, and more

### **Summer 2019**

### **Continuous Quality Improvement**

 Active monitoring, technical assistance, and data analysis with counties, partners, assisters, and all implementation strategies























### **Discussion and Questions**

Next Meeting: All Stakeholder #7
July 23, 2019, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
CDSS Headquarters and Webinar

More info, including meeting materials: <a href="www.cdss.ca.gov/CalFreshSSI">www.cdss.ca.gov/CalFreshSSI</a>

Email: <u>CalFreshSSI@dss.ca.gov</u>